REMARKS

Claims 1-17 and 19-21 have been amended to correct typographical errors and to more clearly define the invention.

The claims have been amended to more clearly define that the claimed system provides overlaid tabbed application windows each including a visible tab indicating a particular subtask of a *sequence of subtasks* that are specifically ordered to perform a particular process involving user interaction with web pages associated with corresponding subtasks and wherein visible tabs and corresponding overlaid tabbed windows are *sequentially* ordered in accordance with the *sequence of subtasks* (Application page 4 lines 8-16). Support for these amendments is found in the existing claims and in the Application in connection with Figures 2 and 6 and other places. Specific support for the recited process involving user interaction with web pages associated with corresponding subtasks is found on page 9 lines 9-17 in connection with Figure 7.

I. Claim Objections.

Claims 2-11 are objected to as using "A method" instead of "The method". Claims 2-11 are amended to recite "The method". Consequently this ground of objection is deemed resolved and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

II. Rejection of claims 10 under 35 USC 112.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 USC 112 second paragraph as being indefinite. Specifically, claim 10 is rejected because the term "in response to collated user preference data" is not positively recited in the claim.

Claim 10 is amended to positively recite the activity of "receiving user preference data determining display image characteristics". Consequently, this ground of objection is no longer deemed to apply and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

III. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)

Claims 1-4, 6-10 and 12-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,049,812 – Bertram et al. These claims, as amended, are deemed to be patentable for the reasons given below.

Amended claim 1 recites an "Internet compatible user interface system" involving "initiating display of a composite window representing a plurality of overlaid tabbed web page windows each including a visible tab incorporating an identifier identifying a function provided by a web page associated with a particular subtask of an ordered sequence of subtasks, said sequence of subtasks being specifically ordered to perform a particular process involving user interaction with web pages associated with corresponding subtasks and wherein visible tabs and corresponding overlaid tabbed windows are sequentially ordered in accordance with said sequence of subtasks; and initiating display of a subtask web page in the foreground of said composite window in response to user selection of a visible tab corresponding to said subtask web page". These features are not shown (or suggested) in Bertram.

The user interface system of amended claim 1 involves "initiating display of a composite window representing a plurality of overlaid tabbed web page windows" and an individual "web page" is "associated with a particular subtask of an ordered sequence of subtasks" that are "specifically ordered to perform a particular process involving user interaction with web pages associated with corresponding subtasks" and "visible tabs and corresponding overlaid tabbed windows are sequentially ordered in accordance with said sequence of subtasks". These features provide a user interface system tailored for "sequential task oriented processes, workflow management and user specific, customizable, interactive and other organizable processes. The described system permits any workflow or task comprising sequentially definable subtasks to be advantageously decomposed into a form representable by hierarchically arranged tabbed web page windows. The tabbed web page windows are structured to simplify network (including Intranet and Internet) implementation of business to business and business to consumer interaction for commercial transactions and other purposes. The system advantageously simplifies user interface and navigation in a web based commercial transaction or other application environment and thereby facilitates increased user productivity via easier and faster use of web based applications" (Application page 4 lines 8-16).

In contrast, the system of Bertram, addresses the different problem of providing "an improved browser method and apparatus which is capable of loading multiple URLs and keeping them concurrently active" (Bertram column 4 lines 33-36). For this purpose Bertram employs overlaid tabbed web page windows comprising a "working list" including a "series of overlapped, marked tabs 13 in an upper portion of the overall display screen of a display device 24" (Bertram column 7 lines 9-13). However, the tabs and tabbed web page windows of Bertram are NOT "sequentially ordered in accordance with said sequence of subtasks". The tabs and tabbed web page windows of Bertram are further NOT "specifically ordered to perform a particular process involving user interaction with web pages associated with corresponding subtasks".

In Bertram, a tab (termed a URL entry item in Bertram) and associated tabbed web page window are allocated a position in a tab bar (termed a working list in Bertram) based on "how the URL came to be added" (Bertram column 4 lines 62-64) and specifically based on two criteria. Firstly, if a tab of a web page has a parent web page, the tab is placed adjacent to the parent web page tab ("A URL item's initial position in the working list would be after its parent URL, which is determined by consulting a history list" - Bertram column 9 lines 50-52). This is sequential ordering by **historical hierarchical** navigation association. Secondly, if a tab of a web page does not have a parent web page in a tab bar, the tab is placed at the end of the list ("if the URL has no parent or the parent is no longer present in the working list, then the URL's entry is placed at the end of the list. This permits a user to see related URLs grouped together for convenience" - Bertram column 9 lines 52-55). This is ordering by **time and date of incorporation in a menu bar**. According to Bertram this "permits a user to see related URLs grouped together for convenience. Also, if a URL's parent URL is transient, it is important to position the new URL after its parent, because when the parent disappears and the new URL is added it will be equivalent to replacing the URL's parent in the working list with the new URL contents and parameters" – Bertram column 9 lines 55-61.

Bertram in the Background of the Invention, as recognized in the Rejection (Rejection page 7), indicates a deficiency of known systems as being a "desktop manages multiple application programs or data objects independently, and not in a fashion that links them together in a sequence" and that it is desirable to have the ability to "surf or follow a sequential series of links or hyperlinks...for perusing the extensive content available on the web" (Bertram column 3 lines 16-18 and 55-57). However, Bertram is considering the desirability of supporting navigation via

URLs having a **historical hierarchical** association e.g., a parent web page links to a child web page that links to a grandchild web page. This is corroborated in Bertram in the summary of the invention in column 4 line 64 to column 5 line 6 which states "The browser also maintains a history list for all URLs that have been active, so that a user can use navigation commands to **retrace** the path of links that have previously taken, i.e. to reaccess previous URLs that have been accessed. Also, the invention is devised so that, at a user's request, the browser can create a **history** list of specific URLs in a path that is personalized for each active URL. With this capability, a user can **retrace** the path of links created for an individually active URL without regard to the other paths of links for other active URLS".

Therefore Bertram orders overlaid web pages and associated tabs by **historical hierarchical** navigation association or **time and date of incorporation in a menu bar**. This order is in direct conflict with overlaid web pages and associated tabs being "sequentially ordered in accordance with said sequence of subtasks". Consequently, there is no suggestion or enabling disclosure under 35 USC 112 in Bertram of use of tabs and tabbed web page windows that are "sequentially ordered in accordance with said sequence of subtasks" or that are "specifically ordered to perform a particular process involving user interaction with web pages associated with corresponding subtasks". Figure 6 of Bertram illustrates the configuration of tabbed web pages according to Bertram criteria and contains NO method or suggestion of ordering tabbed web pages at all and certainly not ordering "in accordance with said sequence of subtasks" of a process.

Bertram is concerned with the different problem of providing "an improved browser method and apparatus which is capable of loading multiple URLs and keeping them concurrently active" (Bertram column 4 lines 33-36) and NOT the problem of providing a user interface system tailored for "sequential task oriented processes, workflow management and user specific, customizable, interactive and other organizable processes" (Application page 4 lines 8-16). Further, there is no other specific reason or motivation in Bertram for incorporating the claimed tabbed web page ordering "in accordance with said sequence of subtasks" of a process. On the contrary, the claimed tabbed web page ordering is in **direct conflict** with the tabbed web page ordering adopted in Bertram. The tabs can only be ordered according to one set of criteria. If the tabs are ordered according to the Bertram criteria they **cannot** be ordered "in accordance with said sequence of subtasks" of a process. Consequently, the Bertram system and claimed system are mutually incompatible and to adopt the teaching of Bertram forestalls any possibility of use (or

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suggestion of use) of the claimed system arrangement. Consequently, withdrawal of the Rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) based on Bertram is respectfully requested.

Amended dependent claim 2 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 2 is also considered to be patentable because Bertram does not show (or suggest) a system involving "initiating display of command menu items supporting at least one function of, (a) ordering tabbed web pages, (b) providing a template tabbed web page sequence, and (c) assigning a tabbed web page sequence to particular web page universal resource locators (URLs)". These features in combination with the features of claim 1 are not shown or suggested anywhere in Bertram.

Amended dependent claim 3 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 3 is also considered to be patentable because Bertram does not show (or suggest) a system in which "said sequence of subtasks comprise a process involving an ordered sequential user interaction with said web pages associated with corresponding subtasks and said Internet compatible user interface system comprises a web browser". As previously explained, the tabs and tabbed web pages of Bertram are ordered in accordance with different (and incompatible) criteria to the criteria employed in the claimed arrangement. Consequently, the Bertram system does show or suggest "**ordered** sequential **user interaction** with said web pages associated with corresponding **subtasks**" of a process.

Amended dependent claim 4 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 4 is also considered to be patentable because Bertram does not show (or suggest) a system in which "said ordered sequence of subtasks comprises a **workflow process** including at least **two** functions from (a) browsing web pages, (b) searching for information, (c) configuring web page features, (d) providing capability to contact a human agent and (e) initiating a commercial transaction". As previously explained, the tabs and tabbed web pages of Bertram are ordered in accordance with different (and incompatible) criteria to the criteria employed in the claimed arrangement. Consequently, the Bertram system does show or suggest a user interface providing overlaid tabbed web pages associated with a corresponding "ordered sequence of subtasks" comprising a "**workflow process** including at least **two** functions" as recited in claim 4.

Amended dependent claim 6 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 6 is also considered to be patentable because Bertram does not show (or suggest) a system in which "said process involves a particular ordered sequential user interaction with an individual web page of said web pages associated with corresponding subtasks and said identifier comprises at least one of (a) text and (b) a symbol". As previously explained, the tabs and tabbed web pages of Bertram are ordered in accordance with different (and incompatible) criteria to the criteria employed in the claimed arrangement. Consequently, the Bertram system does show or suggest a user interface providing overlaid tabbed web pages associated with corresponding subtasks of a process and the "process involves a particular **ordered sequential user interaction** with an **individual** web page of said web pages associated with corresponding subtasks".

Amended dependent claim 7 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 7 is also considered to be patentable because Bertram does not show (or suggest) a system involving the combination of features in which "said visible tab is at least one of, (a) incorporated in a window used for displaying a retrieved web page and (b) embedded within said web page associated with a particular subtask of said sequence of subtasks".

Amended dependent claim 8 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 8 is also considered to be patentable because Bertram does not show (or suggest) a user interface system providing "a composite window representing a plurality of overlaid tabbed web page windows" that "supports a plurality of concurrently operating Internet based applications each corresponding to one of said plurality of overlaid tabbed web page windows" that are "sequentially ordered in accordance with said sequence of subtasks". As previously explained, the tabs and tabbed web pages of Bertram are ordered in accordance with different (and incompatible) criteria to the criteria employed in the claimed arrangement.

Amended dependent claim 9 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 9 is also considered to be patentable because Bertram does not show (or suggest) the combination of features of claim 9 including "sharing context information between subtasks corresponding to different overlaid tabbed web pages, said context information comprising at least one of, (a) user identification information, (b) user authorization information, and (c) commercial transaction identification information". Column 12 lines 66-67 and Figure 1A relied on in the Rejection page 8 merely shows conventional logon and retrieval of a URL from

storage. It does NOT show sharing "context information between **subtasks** corresponding to **different** overlaid tabbed web pages, said context information comprising at least one of, (a) **user identification** information, (b) **user authorization** information, and (c) commercial **transaction** identification information".

Amended dependent claim 10 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 10 is also considered to be patentable because Bertram does not show (or suggest) a system for "receiving user preference data determining display image characteristics and in response to said received user preference data, adaptively re-ordering at least one of, (a) said overlaid tabbed web page windows and (b) functions provided by a web page associated with a particular subtask". The user selection of a link in Bertram column 15 lines 13-15 has nothing to do with "**user preference data**" or "**image characteristics**" or adaptive "**re-ordering**".

Amended independent claim 12 is considered to be patentable because of reasons given in connection with claim 1. It is also considered to be patentable because Bertram does not show or suggest "a first menu for use in assigning individual subtasks of said sequence to corresponding sequentially ordered tabbed web page windows". As previously explained, the tabs and tabbed web pages of Bertram are ordered in accordance with different (and incompatible) criteria to the criteria employed in the claimed arrangement. Further, contrary, to the Rejection view (Rejection page 9), Figure 4 of Bertram (or anywhere else in Bertram) does NOT support "**assigning individual subtasks** of said **sequence** to corresponding sequentially ordered tabbed web page windows". Bertram is not concerned with, and does not contemplate or mention assigning tasks of a workflow process.

Amended dependent claim 13 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 12. Claim 13 is also considered to be patentable because Bertram does not show (or suggest) a user interface system providing "a second menu for use in entering identifier data for incorporation in a visible tab of a user selected web page window of said sequentially ordered tabbed web page windows". As previously explained, the tabs and tabbed web pages of Bertram are ordered in accordance with different (and incompatible) criteria to the criteria employed in the claimed arrangement.

Amended dependent claim 14 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 12. Claim 14 is also considered to be patentable because Bertram does not show (or suggest) a system in which "a second menu for use in allocating web page universal resource locators (URLs) to corresponding windows of said sequentially ordered overlaid tabbed web page windows". As previously explained, the tabs and tabbed web pages of Bertram are ordered in accordance with different (and incompatible) criteria to the criteria employed in the claimed arrangement.

Amended dependent claim 15 is considered to be patentable because of reasons given in connection with claims 1, 3 and 12.

Amended independent claim 16 is considered to be patentable because of reasons given in connection with claims 1 and 9. It is also considered to be patentable because Bertram does not show or suggest "sharing context information between **subtasks** corresponding to **different** overlaid tabbed web pages". As previously explained, the tabs and tabbed web pages". Contrary to the Rejection statement on page 8, Column 12 lines 66-67 and Figure 1A relied on in the Rejection merely shows conventional logon and retrieval of a URL from storage.

Amended dependent claim 17 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 16 and for reasons given in connection with claim 9.

Amended dependent claim 18 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 16. Claim 18 is also considered to be patentable because Bertram does not show (or suggest) the combination of features of claim 18 including a "composite window" that "supports a plurality of concurrently operating Internet based applications each corresponding to one of said plurality of overlaid tabbed web page windows, and said **context** information is **shared between said concurrent applications**". Bertram does NOT show sharing "context information between" concurrent applications "applications each corresponding to one of said plurality of overlaid tabbed web page windows". Contrary to the Rejection view, Column 12 lines 66-67 and Figure 1A relied on in the Rejection merely shows conventional logon and retrieval of a URL from storage.

Amended independent claim 19 is considered to be patentable because of reasons given in connection with claim 1. It is also considered to be patentable because Bertram does not show or suggest "initiating display of a menu for use in

decomposing a process into a sequence of individual subtasks corresponding to sequentially ordered tabbed web page windows". Figure 6 and accompanying description (see column 7 lines 64-66 and subsequent material) of Bertram illustrates the configuration of tabbed web pages according to Bertram criteria and contains NO method or suggestion of "**decomposing a process** into a **sequence of individual subtasks** corresponding to sequentially ordered tabbed web page windows". This is because Bertram is not concerned with, and does not contemplate or mention, "decomposing" a process into a sequence of individual subtasks or assigning tasks of a process to web pages at all.

Amended dependent claim 20 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 19. Claim 20 is also considered to be patentable because Bertram does not show (or suggest) the combination of features of claim 20 in which the "activity of initiating display of a menu for use in **decomposing a process** into a sequence of individual subtasks comprises initiating generation of a menu for partitioning subtasks into two or more functions selected from (a) browsing web pages, (b) searching for information, (c) configuring web page features, (d) providing capability to contact a human agent and (e) initiating a commercial transaction". Bertram does NOT show thee features for reasons given in connection with claims 1 and 19.

Amended independent method claim 21 is considered to be patentable because of reasons given in connection with claim 1.

Consequently, withdrawal of the Rejection of claims 1-4, 6-10 and 12-21, under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bertram is respectfully requested.

IV. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)

Claims 1-10 and 12-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,370,355 – Ceretta et al. These claims, as amended, are deemed to be patentable for the reasons given below.

The user interface system of amended claim 1 involves "initiating display of a composite window representing a plurality of overlaid tabbed web page windows" and an individual "web page" is "associated with a particular subtask of an ordered sequence of subtasks" that are "specifically ordered to perform a particular process involving user interaction with web pages associated with corresponding

subtasks" and "visible tabs and corresponding overlaid tabbed windows are sequentially ordered in accordance with said sequence of subtasks". These features provide a user interface system tailored for "sequential task oriented processes, workflow management and user specific, customizable, interactive and other organizable processes. The described system permits any workflow or task comprising sequentially definable subtasks to be advantageously decomposed into a form representable by hierarchically arranged tabbed web page windows. The tabbed web page windows are structured to simplify network (including Intranet and Internet) implementation of business to business and business to consumer interaction for commercial transactions and other purposes. The system advantageously simplifies user interface and navigation in a web based commercial transaction or other application environment and thereby facilitates increased user productivity via easier and faster use of web based applications" (Application page 4 lines 8-16).

In contrast, the system of Ceretta concerns "an Internet based blended learning system for providing educational tools to an end-user, or student, in accordance with the end-user's expressed educational interests." (Ceretta column 2 lines 14-18). Ceretta does NOT employ, show or suggest use of "overlaid tabbed web page windows" at all. Contrary to the Rejection statement on page 3, the menu options at the top of the Figure 5 image of Ceretta ("Live Help", Search", "shopping cart" etc.) are merely Button representative hyperlinks to web pages. These items are not associated with "overlaid tabbed web page windows". There is no 35 USC 112 enabling description indicating these items of Figure 5 have anything to do with "overlaid tabbed web page windows", either in Ceretta column 10 lines 5-36, or anywhere else. There is no description of these items in Ceretta at all. Ceretta nowhere shows or suggests use of "a composite window representing a plurality of overlaid tabbed web page windows" in which an individual "web page" is "associated with a particular subtask of an ordered sequence of subtasks" that are "specifically ordered to perform a particular process involving user interaction with web pages associated with corresponding subtasks". Consequently, withdrawal of the Rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ceretta is respectfully requested

Amended dependent claim 2 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 2 is also considered to be patentable because Ceretta does not show (or suggest) a system for "initiating display of command menu items supporting at least one function of, (a) ordering tabbed web pages, (b) providing a template tabbed web page sequence, and (c) assigning a tabbed web page sequence to

particular web page universal resource locators (URLs)". These features in combination with the features of claim 1 are not shown or suggested anywhere in Ceretta. The "tags" referred to in the Rejection page 3 in Ceretta column 5 lines 55-57 are SGML tags and have nothing to do with the claimed "visible tabs".

Amended dependent claim 3 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 3 is also considered to be patentable because Ceretta does not show (or suggest) a system in which "said sequence of subtasks comprise a process involving an ordered sequential user interaction with said web pages associated with corresponding subtasks and said Internet compatible user interface system comprises a web browser". As previously explained, Ceretta does NOT employ, show or suggest use of "sequentially ordered" overlaid "tabbed web page windows" at all. Consequently, the Ceretta system does show or suggest "**ordered sequential user interaction** with said web pages associated with corresponding **subtasks**" of a process.

Amended dependent claim 4 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 4 is also considered to be patentable because Ceretta does not show (or suggest) a system in which "said ordered sequence of subtasks comprises a **workflow process** including at least **two** functions from (a) browsing web pages, (b) searching for information, (c) configuring web page features, (d) providing capability to contact a human agent and (e) initiating a commercial transaction". As previously explained, Ceretta does NOT employ, show or suggest use of "sequentially ordered" overlaid "tabbed web page windows" at all. Consequently, the Ceretta system does show or suggest a user interface providing overlaid tabbed web pages associated with a corresponding "ordered sequence of subtasks" comprising a "**workflow process** including at least **two** functions" as recited in claim 4.

Amended dependent claim 5 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 5 is also considered to be patentable because Ceretta does not show (or suggest) the combination of features of claim 5 in which "said **ordered sequence of subtasks** comprises a workflow process supporting at least **two functions** from, (a) browsing for educational course offerings, (b) searching for information about a course of a selected course provider, (c) enrolling in an on-line educational course, (d) learning about a specific course curriculum, (e) accessing a selected course, (f) providing course practice exercises and (g) obtaining course credit".

Amended dependent claim 6 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 6 is also considered to be patentable because Ceretta does not show (or suggest) a system in which "said process involves a particular ordered sequential user interaction with an individual web page of said web pages associated with corresponding subtasks and said identifier comprises at least one of (a) text and (b) a symbol". As previously explained, Ceretta does NOT employ, show or suggest use of "sequentially ordered" overlaid "tabbed web page windows" at all. Consequently, the Ceretta system does show or suggest a user interface providing overlaid tabbed web pages associated with corresponding subtasks of a process and the "process involves a particular **ordered sequential user interaction** with an **individual** web page of said web pages associated with corresponding subtasks".

Amended dependent claim 7 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 7 is also considered to be patentable because Ceretta does not show (or suggest) a system involving the combination of features in which "said visible tab is at least one of, (a) incorporated in a window used for displaying a retrieved web page and (b) embedded within said web page associated with a particular subtask of said sequence of subtasks". Ceretta does NOT show or suggest "a composite window representing a plurality of overlaid tabbed web page windows each including a visible tab" and "wherein visible tabs and corresponding overlaid tabbed windows are sequentially ordered in accordance with said sequence of subtasks", contrary to the Rejection statement on page 4 concerning Ceretta Figure 5. As previously explained, Ceretta does NOT employ, show or suggest use of "sequentially ordered" overlaid "tabbed web page windows" at all.

Amended dependent claim 8 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 8 is also considered to be patentable because Ceretta does not show (or suggest) a user interface system providing "a composite window representing a plurality of overlaid tabbed web page windows" that "supports a plurality of **concurrently operating** Internet based applications each corresponding to one of said plurality of overlaid tabbed web page windows" that are "sequentially ordered in accordance with said sequence of subtasks". As previously explained, Ceretta does NOT employ, show or suggest use of "sequentially ordered" overlaid "tabbed web page windows" at all.

Amended dependent claim 9 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 9 is also considered to be patentable because Ceretta

does not show (or suggest) the combination of features of claim 9 including "sharing context information between subtasks corresponding to different overlaid tabbed web pages, said context information comprising at least one of, (a) user identification information, (b) user authorization information, and (c) commercial transaction identification information". Column 10 lines 5-7 and Figure 5 relied on in the Rejection page 5 merely shows conventional logon. It does NOT show sharing "context information between **subtasks** corresponding to **different** overlaid tabbed web pages, said context information comprising at least one of, (a) **user identification** information, (b) **user authorization** information, and (c) commercial **transaction** identification information".

Amended dependent claim 10 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 10 is also considered to be patentable because Ceretta does not show (or suggest) a system for "receiving user preference data determining display image characteristics and in response to said received user preference data, adaptively re-ordering at least one of, (a) said overlaid tabbed web page windows and (b) functions provided by a web page associated with a particular subtask". The potential different order of login functions mentioned in Ceretta column 9 lines 64-65 has nothing to do with "**user preference data**" or "**image characteristics**" or **adaptive "re-ordering"**.

Amended independent claim 12 is considered to be patentable because of reasons given in connection with claim 1. It is also considered to be patentable because Ceretta does not show or suggest "a first menu for use in assigning individual subtasks of said sequence to corresponding sequentially ordered tabbed web page windows". As previously explained, Ceretta does NOT employ, show or suggest use of "sequentially ordered" overlaid "tabbed web page windows" at all. Further, contrary, to the Rejection view (Rejection page 5), column 5 lines 55-58 of Ceretta (or anywhere else in Ceretta) does NOT support "**assigning individual subtasks** of said **sequence** to corresponding sequentially ordered tabbed web page windows".

Amended dependent claim 13 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 12. Claim 13 is also considered to be patentable because Ceretta does not show (or suggest) a user interface system providing "a second menu for use in entering identifier data for incorporation in a visible tab of a user selected web page window of said sequentially ordered tabbed web page windows". As previously explained, Ceretta does NOT employ, show or suggest use of "sequentially ordered" overlaid "tabbed web page windows" at all.

Amended dependent claim 14 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 12. Claim 14 is also considered to be patentable because Ceretta does not show (or suggest) employing "a second menu for use in allocating web page universal resource locators (URLs) to corresponding windows of said sequentially ordered overlaid tabbed web page windows". As previously explained, Ceretta does NOT employ, show or suggest use of "sequentially ordered" overlaid "tabbed web page windows" at all.

Amended dependent claim 15 is considered to be patentable because of reasons given in connection with claims 1, 3 and 12.

Amended independent claim 16 is considered to be patentable because of reasons given in connection with claims 1 and 9.

Amended dependent claim 17 is considered to be patentable because of reasons given in connection with claims 1, 9 and 16.

Amended dependent claim 18 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 16 and for reasons given in connection with claims 1, 9 and 16. Claim 18 is also considered to be patentable because Ceretta does not show (or suggest) the combination of features of claim 18 including a "composite window" that "supports a plurality of concurrently operating Internet based applications each corresponding to one of said plurality of overlaid tabbed web page windows, and said **context** information is **shared between said concurrent applications**". Ceretta does NOT show sharing "context information between" concurrent applications "applications each corresponding to one of said plurality of overlaid tabbed web page windows". Contrary to the Rejection view, Column 10 lines 5-7 and Figure 5 relied on in the Rejection page 5 merely shows conventional logon.

Amended independent claim 19 is considered to be patentable because of reasons given in connection with claim 1 and 12. It is also considered to be patentable because Ceretta does not show or suggest "initiating display of a menu for use in decomposing a process into a sequence of individual subtasks corresponding to sequentially ordered tabbed web page windows". Further, contrary, to the Rejection view (Rejection page 5), column 5 lines 55-58 of Ceretta (or anywhere else in Ceretta) does NOT support and contains NO method or suggestion of "**decomposing a process** into a **sequence of individual subtasks** corresponding to sequentially

ordered tabbed web page windows". As previously explained, Ceretta does NOT employ, show or suggest use of "sequentially ordered" overlaid "tabbed web page windows" at all and certainly not in combination with "decomposing a process into a sequence of individual subtasks".

Amended dependent claim 20 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 19. Claim 20 is also considered to be patentable because Ceretta does not show (or suggest) the combination of features of claim 20 in which the "activity of initiating display of a menu for use in **decomposing a process** into a sequence of individual subtasks comprises initiating generation of a menu for partitioning subtasks into two or more functions selected from (a) browsing web pages, (b) searching for information, (c) configuring web page features, (d) providing capability to contact a human agent and (e) initiating a commercial transaction". Ceretta does NOT show thee features for reasons given in connection with claims 1 and 19.

Amended independent method claim 21 is considered to be patentable because of reasons given in connection with claim 1.

Consequently, withdrawal of the Rejection of claims 1-10 and 12-21, under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ceretta is respectfully requested.

V. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,049,812 – Bertram in view of U.S. Patent 6,370,355 – Ceretta. This claim, as amended, is deemed to be patentable for the reasons given below.

Amended dependent claim 5 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 5 is also considered to be patentable because Bertram and Ceretta, individually or in combination, do not show (or suggest) the combination of features of claim 5 in which "said **ordered sequence of subtasks** comprises a workflow process supporting at least **two functions** from, (a) browsing for educational course offerings, (b) searching for information about a course of a selected course provider, (c) enrolling in an on-line educational course, (d) learning about a specific course curriculum, (e) accessing a selected course, (f) providing course practice exercises and (g) obtaining course credit".

In the absence from Ceretta of any suggestion of use of overlaid "tabbed web page windows", the combination of Bertram and Ceretta suggested in the Rejection orders overlaid web pages and associated tabs by **historical hierarchical** navigation association or **time and date of incorporation in a menu bar** (as previously discussed in connection with Bertram and claim 1). This order is in direct conflict with an order in which overlaid web pages are "sequentially ordered in accordance with said sequence of subtasks". Therefore, the combination of the Bertram and Ceretta systems as suggested in the Rejection results in a system in which web pages and tabs associated with "educational tools" comprising "computer-based training, on-line instructor-led classes, reading assignments, lab assignments, archived classes, tests, and other learning methods" are ordered by **historical hierarchical** navigation association or **time and date of incorporation in a menu bar** (Ceretta column 12 lines 27-31, Bertram column 9 lines 50-55). The overlaid web pages and associated tabs can only be ordered according to one set of criteria. Consequently, the tabbed web page ordering of the combined Bertram and Ceretta system is in **direct conflict** with the ordering "in accordance with said sequence of subtasks" of a process as employed in claim 5.

Further, since Bertram and Ceretta, alone or together, fail to recognize or address the specific problem of providing a user interface system tailored for "sequential task oriented processes, workflow management and user specific, customizable, interactive and other organizable processes" (Application page 4 lines 8-16), neither Bertram nor Ceretta contain any motivation or other reason for incorporating the features of the claimed arrangement. On the contrary, the ordering employed by the combined Bertram and Ceretta system is incompatible with ordering overlaid workflow task associated web pages "in accordance with said sequence of subtasks" of a process as employed in claim 5. In addition, to adopt the teaching of Bertram with Ceretta inherently forestalls any possibility of use (or suggestion of use) of the claimed system arrangement. Consequently, withdrawal of the Rejection of claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is respectfully requested.

VI. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,049,812 – Bertram in view of U.S. Patent 6,628,311 – Fang et al. This claim, as amended, is deemed to be patentable for the reasons given below.

Amended dependent claim 11 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 11 is also considered to be patentable because Bertram and Fang, individually or in combination, do not show (or suggest) the combination of features of claim 11 in which "a first subtask comprises a plurality of subsidiary subtasks, and including the activity of initiating display of a second composite window representing a second plurality of overlaid tabbed web page windows each including a visible tab incorporating an identifier identifying a function provided by a web page associated with a subsidiary subtask of said plurality of subsidiary subtasks in response to user selection of a visible tab associated with said first subtask".

Contrary to the Rejection statement on page 11, Figure 3c of Fang does NOT show or suggest the combination of features of claim 11 in which "a first subtask comprises a plurality of subsidiary subtasks, and including the activity of initiating display of a second composite window representing a second plurality of overlaid tabbed web page windows each including a visible tab incorporating an identifier identifying a function provided by a web page associated with a subsidiary subtask of said plurality of subsidiary subtasks in response to user selection of a visible tab associated with said first subtask". In Fang, "FIG. 3c" is generated "when another hyperlink message, in this case, the second message is selected from the help message dialog box" (Fang column 3 lines 23-27, column 4 lines 2-9). Specifically, Figure 3c of Fang is generated upon user selection of "Use slip sheet..." item 2 of Dialog box 40 shown in Figure 3a. Consequently, Figure 3c of Fang is NOT generated "in response to user selection of a **visible tab** associated with" a "first **subtask**". Further, Figure 3c of Fang is NOT generated "in response to user selection of a visible tab associated with" a "first subtask" in which the "first subtask comprises a plurality of subsidiary subtasks, and including the activity of initiating display of a **second composite** window representing a **second** plurality of **overlaid tabbed web page windows** each including a visible tab incorporating an identifier identifying a function provided by a web page associated with a **subsidiary** subtask".

In addition, Fang (with Bertram) does NOT suggest use of overlaid web pages that are "sequentially ordered in accordance with" a "sequence of subtasks" of a process. There is no suggestion in Fang (alone or with Bertram) that the tabs of the menu tab bar including items 11, 12 and 13 are ordered in accordance with a "sequence of subtasks" of a process. The bar items do not even represent items selected to advance through a process but rather menus that are NOT "sequentially ordered" and are optionally selected depending on whether a user wishes to use a

particular function. Items "General" and "Details" or "Setup", for example of the menu tab bar of Figure 3c, appear to be printer management related functions that are randomly selectable. Consequently, the menu system of Fang in figure 3c or elsewhere, provides no 35 USC 112 enabling disclosure, alone or with Bertram, of "visible tabs and corresponding overlaid tabbed windows" being "sequentially ordered" in accordance with a "sequence of subtasks" specifically "ordered to perform a particular process involving user interaction with web pages associated with corresponding subtasks". Similarly, Fang (with Bertram) does not provide any 35 USC 112 enabling disclosure or suggestion of use of "sequentially ordered" overlaid "tabbed web page windows".

In addition, the combination of Bertram and Fang suggested in the Rejection orders overlaid web pages and associated tabs by **historical hierarchical** navigation association or **time and date of incorporation in a menu bar** (as previously discussed in connection with Bertram and claim 1). This order is in direct conflict with an order in which overlaid web pages are "sequentially ordered in accordance with said sequence of subtasks". Therefore, the combination of the Bertram and Fang systems as suggested in the Rejection results in a system in which web pages and tabs associated with printer management functions are ordered by **historical hierarchical** navigation association or **time and date of incorporation in a menu bar** (Fang column 12 lines 27-31, Bertram column 9 lines 50-55). The overlaid web pages and associated tabs can only be ordered according to one set of criteria. Consequently, the tabbed web page ordering of the combined Bertram and Fang system is in **direct conflict** with the ordering "in accordance with said sequence of subtasks" of a process as employed in claim 5.

Further, since Bertram and Fang, alone or together, fail to recognize or address the specific problem of providing a user interface system tailored for "sequential task oriented processes, workflow management and user specific, customizable, interactive and other organizable processes" (Application page 4 lines 8-16), neither Bertram nor Fang contain any motivation or other reason for incorporating the features of the claimed arrangement. On the contrary, the ordering employed by the combined Bertram and Fang system is incompatible with ordering overlaid workflow task associated web pages "in accordance with said sequence of subtasks" of a process as employed in claim 5. In addition, to adopt the teaching of Bertram with Fang inherently forestalls any possibility of use (or suggestion of use) of the claimed system arrangement.

VII. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,049,812 – Ceretta in view of U.S. Patent 6,628,311 – Fang et al. This claim, as amended, is deemed to be patentable for the reasons given below.

Amended dependent claim 11 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1 and for reasons previously given in connection with claim 1 and 11. As previously explained in connection with claim 11, Figure 3c of Fang is NOT generated "in response to user selection of a **visible tab** associated with" a "first **subtask**". Further, Figure 3c of Fang is NOT generated "in response to user selection of a visible tab associated with" a "first subtask" in which the "first subtask comprises a plurality of subsidiary subtasks, and including the activity of initiating display of a **second composite** window representing a **second** plurality of **overlaid tabbed web page windows** each including a visible tab incorporating an identifier identifying a function provided by a web page associated with a **subsidiary** subtask". The menu system of Fang in figure 3c or elsewhere, alone or with Ceretta, provides no 35 USC 112 enabling disclosure of "visible tabs and corresponding overlaid tabbed windows" being "sequentially ordered" in accordance with a "sequence of subtasks" specifically "ordered to perform a particular process involving user interaction with web pages associated with corresponding subtasks". Similarly, Fang with Ceretta does not provide any 35 USC 112 enabling disclosure or suggestion of use of "sequentially ordered" overlaid "tabbed web page windows".

In addition, the combination of Ceretta and Fang fails to suggest ordering of menus (or web pages) and associated tabs at all. Consequently, the combined Ceretta and Fang system is fails to suggest ordering of tabbed overlaid web pages "in accordance with said sequence of subtasks" of a process as employed in claim 11.

Further, since Ceretta and Fang, alone or together, fail to recognize or address the specific problem of providing a user interface system tailored for "sequential task oriented processes, workflow management and user specific, customizable, interactive and other organizable processes" (Application page 4 lines 8-16), neither Ceretta nor Fang contain any motivation or other reason for incorporating the features of the claimed arrangement. On the contrary, the random ordering employed by the combined Ceretta and Fang system is incompatible with ordering overlaid workflow task associated web pages "in accordance with said
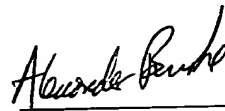
sequence of subtasks" of a process as employed in claim 11. In addition, to adopt the teaching of Ceretta with Fang inherently forestalls any possibility of use (or suggestion of use) of the claimed system arrangement. Consequently, withdrawal of the Rejection of claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and favorable reconsideration is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 11, 2004

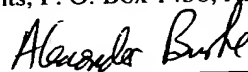_Alexander Burke_

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